

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
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R 201220Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1289
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY SANAA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T JIDDA 3581

EXDIS

E.O.: 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SA
SUBJ: REORGANIZATION OF SAUDI GOVERNMENT

REF : JIDDA 2794

1. HISHAM NAZER, MINISTER OF PLANNING, TOLD ME MAY 18
THAT ZAKI YAMANI'S COMMITTEE TO RE-EXAMIN SAUDI LAWS
(REFTEL WAS ENLARGING ITS SCOPE. IT IS PROPOSING A FULL
REORGANIZATION OF THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT.

2. NAZER SAID THE MOST IMPORTANT CHANGE WOULD BE IN THE
DEVELOPMENT FIELD WHERE VARIOUS MAJOR PROJECTS WOULD BE
SET UP UNDER ROYAL COMMISSIONS, E.G. THE \$5 BILLION PRO-
JECT TO ELECTRIFY THE EASTERN PROVINCE, THE INDUSTRIAL
COMPLEX AT JUBAIL (\$8-10 BILLION), AND THE PORT AND IN-

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DUSTRIAL COMPLEX AT YANBU, NORTH OF JIDDA (ABOUT \$3-5

BILLION).

3. THE SECOND IMPORTANT CHANGE WOULD BE STRIPPING THE FINANCE MINISTRY OF MOST OF ITS FUNCTIONS. IT WOULD BE REDUCED STRICTLY TO A "TREASURY." IT WOULD NO LONGER PERFORM THE FUNCTIONS PERFORMED IN THE UNITED STATES BY THE OMB; ITS VERY CONSIDERABLE AUTHORITY IN STATISTICS, PERSONNEL MATTERS AND HOUSING WOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO OTHER MINISTRIES.

4. RATHER SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES IN THE CABINET ARE ALSO EXPECTED WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS, POSSIBLY BEFORE THE BUDGET COMES OUT IN JULY. NAZER DID NOT GIVE ANY DETAILS ON PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS BUT DID SAY THAT SEVERAL NEW MINISTRIES WOULD BE SET UP. WE HAVE HEARD FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT THERE ARE TO BE MINISTRIES OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION, OF HOUSING AND OF MUNICIPALITIES. THERE MAY BE OTHERS.

AKINS

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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